

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1267

By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Ben Scharfstein of Johnson City.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Ben Scharfstein; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Scharfstein was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a life long resident of Johnson City, Ben Scharfstein graduated from Science Hill High School in 1964 and attended UVA before taking over the daily management responsibilities of his family's business, Stein-Way Clothing Company; and

WHEREAS, possessing the rare ability to transform a vision into a dynamic business achievement, Mr. Scharfstein has operated the One Stop Convenience Store and One Stop Wines and Liquors since the early 1980s; and

WHEREAS, in addition to being a wise and diligent businessman, Ben Scharfstein was a dedicated civic leader who has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order through his work with numerous boards and organizations, including serving as the Commissioner of Tennessee Game and Fish, the American Heart Association, ETSU Foundation, Johnson City PBA board, and the Johnson City Medical Center Board; and

WHEREAS, he was also a proud supporter of the American Heart Association, March of Dimes, Johnson City Medical Center Hospice, 1st Judicial Children's Advocacy Center, the American Cancer Society, the Johnson City Senior Center, ETSU Bluegrass, ETSU Jazz, Johnson City Symphony, the Johnson City Parks and Recreation Department, Winged Deer Park Boardwalk, and the Christians in Action Project, an organization he created to give scriptural books to Angel Tree children; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, Mr. Scharfstein was given the 2007 Spirit Award from the Mountain States Foundation for his many years of community service; and

WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Ben Scharfstein dearly loved his Savior and was known for his solid Christian belief, his service and love, and his role as a reservoir of faith and outreach to the people of Johnson City; and

WHEREAS, this remarkable man was strongly devoted to his family, and he endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Ben Scharfstein was predeceased by his loving parents, the late Phil and Elsie Scharfstein; and

WHEREAS, he enjoyed the loving companionship of his beloved wife, Caroline Crockett Scharfstein, and was the proud father and father-in-law of Phil and Rena Scharfstein and Ben and Lindi Scharfstein and the doting grandfather of Lauren, Philip, Benjamin III, and Grayson; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Scharfstein leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Ben Scharfstein, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Scharfstein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.